Increasing handling capacity of major Ports

111. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the year 2000-2001, the existing major ports handled 271 MT of cargo against a handling capacity of 251 MT;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 500 ships had to be turned away from Mumbai Ports for want of berths from them to anchor; and

(c) if so, Government's planning to increase their port handling capacity to cater to the growing trade requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. In fact, during the year 2000-2001 all existing major ports in the country handled an aggregate cargo of 281 MT against handling capacity of 291 MT as on 31.03.2001.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

News-item "Parents live in the barsati, sons take away their home"

112. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Parents live in the barsati, sons take away their home" appeaing in the Indian Express, dated June 27, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether her Ministry has any machinery or authority to help such old parents in distress; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken in this particular case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news-item basically brings out the problems being faced by Shri Jaidev Sharma (91 year old) and his wife Smt. Saraswati Devi (86 year old) and how they have been displaced from their own home and how they have been physically and mentally abused by their own children. The news-item also mentions about a Court case pending in Delhi High Court regarding the property dispute.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has set up AADHAR as a Secretariat of National Council for Older Persons which also receives grievances of older persons and taken necessary follow up action to reduce the grievances. Helpline for older persons is also being funded by the Ministry at Delhi which is being run by a NGO called Agewell Fundation. In addition, Ministry is also assisting various NGOs in the form of Grant-in-aid for opening and running of Old Age Homes and Day Care Centres all over the country.

Modernisation of IPH, Delhi

†113. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a four and half year course in physiotherapy is being run by Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi through Delhi University;

(b) if so, whether basic facilities for high class training, clinical duty and laboratory have been assembled by the institution in the context of changed situations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.